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LOCAL

Panaji: ASI Nilesh Shriram Fogere Honored for 30 Years of Distinguished Service in Goa Police



Panaji: Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Mr. Nilesh Shriram Fogere was honored with the prestigious 'Swabhiman – Goa Police Award' for his 30 years of distinguished, honest, and dedicated service to the Goa Police Department. The award was presented to him at a ceremony held on November 14, 2026, at the Darya Sangam Art Academy in Panaji.

Mr. Nilesh Shriram Fogere is a resident of Saaleli, Sattari village. He was appointed as a police constable in the Goa Police Department on March 1, 1996. He successfully completed his basic training at the Police Training School in Valpoi. Subsequently, in 1997, he underwent commando training at the Police Commando Training School in Port Bahadurgarh, Patiala (Punjab).

He was promoted to the rank of Head Constable in 2015, and in June 2026, he was promoted to Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI).

During his service, he has held various responsibilities at the GRP Camp in Altino; the Tourist Police Department in Panaji; the Old Goa Police Station; the Traffic Department in DichoLi; the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in Panaji; and currently at the DichoLi Police Station.

While serving with the ATS in Panaji, he played a crucial role in the arrest of a Bangladeshi citizen who was residing in India without a valid visa. During his tenure at the DichoLi Police Station, he made significant contributions to the investigation and resolution of serious cases involving theft, rape, murder, attempted murder, and offenses under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

Mr. Fogere has discharged his duties with integrity, discipline, loyalty, and dedication throughout his entire career. He possesses good knowledge and practical experience in the areas of crime prevention and investigation. He has fulfilled every responsibility with complete proficiency and accountability.

In recognition of his outstanding services, efficiency, and sense of duty towards the Goa Police Department, he was honored with this prestigious award.

— sudesh mayekar

POLITICS

Panaji: Goa CM Pramod Sawant Honors Over 40 Police Officers with 'Goa Swabhiman Awards'



Panaji: Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant honored more than 40 officers and staff members of the Goa Police by presenting them with the 'Goa Swabhiman Awards' at a ceremony held in the Darya Sangam Auditorium of the Art Academy in Panaji.

On this occasion, police officers, jawans, government prosecutors, and Home Guard members were recognized for their dedication, courage, and outstanding service.

The event also celebrated the historic achievement of the Goa Police receiving the prestigious 'President's Colours.' This honor symbolizes the force's discipline, professionalism, and dedicated service to the nation.

Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant congratulated all the award recipients. He also acknowledged the contribution and sacrifice of the families of police personnel.

The Chief Minister stated that his government is placing special emphasis on modern technology, better infrastructure, employee welfare, and enhancing efficiency to further empower the Goa Police. The government is committed to ensuring the safety of every resident of Goa.

— sudesh mayekar

SPORTS

FC Goa Parts Ways with Goramangi Singh, Seeks Foreign Coach



FC Goa has confirmed that it has parted ways with head coach Goramangi Singh.

The club stated that the decision was mutual and that it will look for a foreign coach for the next season.

No replacement has been announced yet.

The club hopes the new appointment will bring a fresh perspective to the team.

Singh had been associated with the club for some time prior to this decision.

CRIME

Police demand checks on shek workers, urge crackdown on illegal activities



Police officials have stressed the importance of verifying the credentials of workers employed in sheks. This measure aims to prevent illegal activities and ensure that only authorized personnel work in these establishments. Officials have urged local municipal bodies to implement strict verification processes and conduct regular inspections. By ensuring proper worker credentials, police hope to reduce theft, fraud, and other illegal practices in sheks. This initiative is part of broader efforts to bring greater transparency and accountability to the informal sector.

JOBS & CAREER

New Labour Rules Make Grievance Panels Mandatory in Workplaces



The Ministry of Labour and Employment has issued new labour regulations ordering the establishment of grievance panels in all workplaces in India. This step is intended to provide employees with a structured process to register their complaints and seek timely resolution.

Under the new rules, each panel must have at least three members: a senior manager, a human resources representative, and an independent external expert. Employers are required to publish the panel's composition, procedures, and complaint resolution timelines on their intranet or notice boards.

Industry associations have appreciated the clarity but indicated that small enterprises may face difficulties in implementation. Meanwhile, trade unions have welcomed the move as a safeguard for employees' rights and have demanded swift implementation and regular audits.

The effective date of these rules has been set for the first day of next month, with a six-month transition period granted to all organizations for compliance. Non-compliant institutions may be subject to penalties under the Labour Code.

AUTOMOBILE

Scooterist Killed in Two-Wheeler Collision in Nuvem, Goa



A scooterist died on a road in Nuvem, Goa, after his vehicle collided with another two-wheeler in an incident that occurred on Thursday. The Times of India confirmed the death following a police statement. Local authorities are investigating, and the scene has been cordoned off. The accident highlights the need for stricter enforcement of traffic rules in the area.

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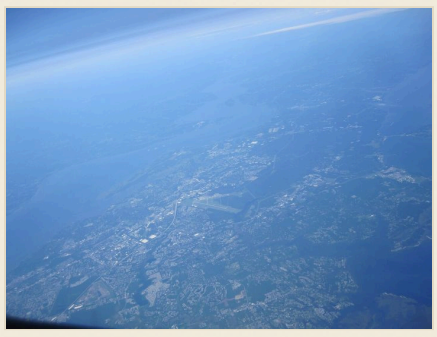
SPORTS

Veed to Face Goa in Today's Opening Match



The Veed team will face Goa in today's opening match. This match marks the beginning of the competition, with both teams eager for an early win. Fans are expected to attend to support their teams.

POLITICS

Goa Leader Parskar Returns to BJP After Four Years



Veteran Goa politician Vijay Parskar formally re-entered the Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday, signalling his return after a four-year hiatus. The ceremony, held at the BJP state office in Panaji, saw senior leaders welcoming him. Prior to leaving the party in 2019, Parskar had served as a minister in the state government. He subsequently worked as an independent and briefly allied with regional parties. The reasons cited for his exit were disagreements over candidate selection and policy direction, though he did not specify a particular cause in his re-entry statement. BJP state president Sadanand Tanvade praised Parskar's decision, saying it would strengthen the party's organisational capacity ahead of the upcoming local elections. Other senior leaders also underscored the need for experienced leaders to consolidate BJP's position in Goa. Political analysts believe Parskar's return could influence the party's strategy in the forthcoming municipal polls, with his local ties in North Goa potentially aiding BJP's campaign. The re-entry does not alter any legislative balance immediately but is seen as a sign of BJP's restructuring after recent challenges.

Navy Blocks Access to Temple, Protests Erupt



The Indian Navy has closed the entrance to a temple for security reasons, prompting local devotees and activists to stage protests. Protesters have called the move a violation of religious freedom and demanded the ban be lifted immediately. Authorities have yet to give a clear statement on when the restriction will be removed. Police have deployed additional security to control the crowd, while the demonstrations have remained peaceful. Further talks are expected to resolve the issue.

POLITICS

Former Goa CM Lakshmikant Parsekar returns to BJP, calls 2022 exit a 'misunderstanding'



In a statement released by the BJP, former Goa Chief Minister Lakshmikant Parsekar announced his return to the party.

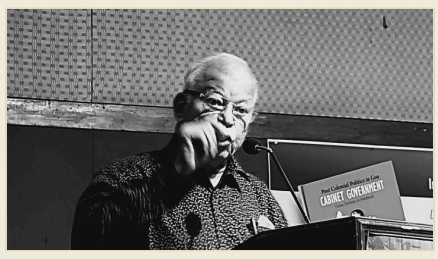
Parsekar stated that his decision to leave the BJP in 2022 was a result of a misunderstanding, a claim he has reiterated in recent interviews.

The party expressed happiness at his return, with senior leaders assuring that his experience would strengthen the BJP's position in Goa.

Analysts believe Parsekar's return could alter the state's political landscape ahead of the upcoming assembly elections.

AUTOMOBILE

CM welcomes new Bengaluru–Mangaluru–Madgaon Vande Bharat Express



The new Vande Bharat Express connects Bengaluru, Mangaluru, and Madgaon, covering a distance of approximately 600 kilometers in less than six hours. The train is equipped with modern amenities and has a top speed of 180 km/h.

At the inauguration ceremony, the Chief Minister expressed enthusiasm for the project, highlighting the importance of this rail link for tourism and trade. He described the train as a symbol of progress and a boost for the local economy.

The service will operate twice daily, with coaches available for approximately 400 passengers. Amenities such as on-board Wi-Fi, automatic doors, and dedicated catering are expected to attract travelers.

will significantly reduce travel time between the three cities, leading to an increase in business travel and tourism.

CRIME

Goa Police Arrest 24 in Multi-State Cyber-Fraud Ring



Goa Police have arrested 24 suspects linked to a multi-state cyber-fraud network. The operation was carried out in coordination with law-enforcement agencies from several states. The police superintendent said the operation targeted individuals who perpetrated fraud via online platforms, stealing money and exploiting digital vulnerabilities. Sources say the ring was dismantled after months of surveillance and inter-state cooperation. The arrested persons are currently in custody and will face charges under the Information Technology Act and the Indian Penal Code.

NATIONAL

3,272 Teachers Conduct Door-to-Door Survey for Census Phase II



3,272 teachers across India are conducting door-to-door surveys for the second phase of the census. The teachers have been selected from schools in every state and they visit each household to record demographic data such as age, gender, occupation and literacy. They have undergone a brief training program that emphasized the census questionnaire, the data-entry process and the importance of accuracy. Surveyors are equipped with tablets and are instructed to verify the information with family members. The census, run by the Office of the Registrar General, aims to collect up-to-date data that will shape government planning, resource allocation and policy decisions. Teachers' participation will help overcome the challenges that traditional census workers face in rural and remote areas. Officials say that teachers' familiarity with local communities will ensure that no household is missed and that the collected data will be reliable for development plans over the next decade.

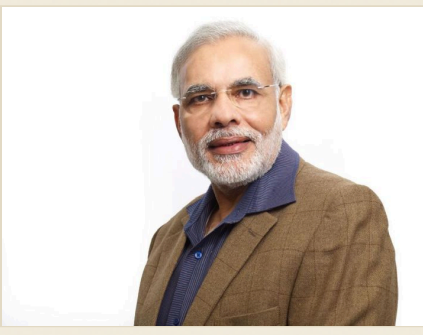
CM to lead BJP campaign in 2027 assembly elections



The Times of India reported that the current Chief Minister will lead the BJP's publicity and campaigning activities for the 2027 state assembly elections. The party has appointed the Chief Minister as the face of its election campaign, clarifying its strategy to strengthen its voter base. While this announcement clarified the Chief Minister's central role, no details have yet been provided regarding the campaign's timeline, messaging, or alliances. Experts believe the Chief Minister's active participation often highlights the benefits of being in power and sends a message of continuous governance. The BJP is preparing to release a full campaign plan in the coming months, in which the Chief Minister is expected to play a prominent role in public rallies and media platforms.

TRAVEL

PM Modi flags off Bengaluru–Goa Vande Bharat Express



Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially flagged off the Bengaluru–Goa Vande Bharat Express at a ceremony in Bengaluru, attended by senior railway officials and dignitaries from the state. The train is part of the new generation of the Vande Bharat series, featuring modern amenities and a semi-high-speed capability of up to 160 km/h.

The service will run twice daily from Bengaluru's Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal to Madgaon in Goa, covering a distance of 560 kilometers in approximately eight hours, saving several hours compared to existing options. Seats will be available in both Executive and Chair Car classes, with on-board Wi-Fi and infotainment facilities.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw stated that this launch underscores the government's commitment to promoting premium rail connectivity across the country. The Bengaluru–Goa Vande Bharat Express will strengthen tourism and business ties between Karnataka's tech hub and Goa's tourism and trade center, with plans to launch similar services on other major routes.

North Goa Designated as Watersports Zone; Safety Standards Made Mandatory



The State Tourism Department announced that specific sections of the North Goa coastline have been designated as official watersports zones. This step has been taken to regulate recreational activities such as jet-skiing, parasailing, and banana-boat rides.

Operators working in these zones will now be required to obtain permission from the department and comply with several safety standards, including the presence of certified lifeguards, the use of life jackets, and regular equipment inspections.

The directive also states that signage clearly indicating the zone boundaries and safety rules must be installed on the beaches and launch points. Violations of the rules may be penalized under the state's coastal regulation framework.

Local tourism organizations have welcomed the move, stating that it will boost tourist confidence, reduce accidents, and provide businesses with a clear operational framework.

ENTERTAINMENT

IFFI 2026: 159 International and 76 Indian Films to Screen; 'Dhurandhar' to Open Indian Panorama



The International Film Festival (IFFI) 2026 will feature a diverse cinematic lineup, including a total of 159 international and 76 Indian films. The festival aims to highlight global cinematic trends while also shedding light on domestic storytelling.

In a significant announcement for the Indian film industry, the film 'Dhurandhar' has been selected to open the festival's Indian Panorama section. This segment typically showcases the finest examples of Indian cinema.

The inclusion of over 235 films underscores the festival's role as a premier platform for cultural exchange and film appreciation. Organizers expect the program to receive a strong response from industry experts and film enthusiasts.

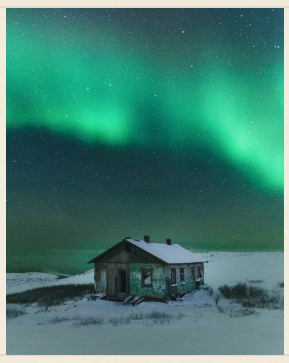
Chhath Puja held in Goa for the first time



Chhath Puja, primarily celebrated in Bihar and Jharkhand, has found a new home in Goa. The festival, which involves fasting, prayers, and offerings to the Sun God, was marked by devotees gathering at various locations along the coast. The unique blend of ancient traditions and Goa’s vibrant culture created a memorable experience for participants.

WEATHER

Temperatures drop 4°C in Indian state, offering relief from heat



Latest data from the state's weather monitoring centers indicates that temperatures have dropped four degrees Celsius below normal, offering a sense of relief after days of intense heat.

Residents of the region have noticed a clear decline in temperature, with many stating that the sudden drop has alleviated the discomfort caused by the earlier heatwave. Local markets and outdoor workers have also reported a cooler environment.

The India Meteorological Department confirmed that the drop is a temporary change caused by the entry of a cold air mass. Officials warned that temperatures may rise again in the latter part of the week, but for now, the drop is providing immediate relief to the public.

Fire at Vasco Market in Goa Damages 145 Shops; Owners to Be Relocated



A fire that broke out at Vasco Market in Goa on Tuesday burned down 145 shops. The fire brigade managed to bring the blaze under control after several hours, but significant damage was caused to shop property and inventory.

Local authorities stated that a complete safety inspection will be conducted before the market is reopened. In the meantime, the municipal corporation has approved a plan to provide temporary stalls for affected traders in nearby commercial areas.

This step has been taken to protect shopkeepers' livelihoods and expedite reconstruction efforts. Affected traders have been advised to register at the relief center to receive assistance and a timeline for new locations.

No one was injured, and the fire department is investigating the cause of the blaze.

POLITICS

Goa CM Pramod Sawant Defends Governance, Targets 30+ BJP Seats in 2027



Speaking to journalists on Thursday, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that his government has fulfilled its promises and addressed questions regarding recent policies. He highlighted progress in tourism, infrastructure, and social welfare schemes, indicating that these steps reflect a responsible and accountable administration.

Discussing the upcoming 2027 assembly elections, Sawant expressed confidence that the BJP will secure a majority by winning more than 30 out of 40 seats. He stated that the development agenda and ground-level work will resonate with voters.

workers and supporters to intensify their campaigning efforts, emphasizing the need for unity and continuous public engagement. He said that a strong BJP government is essential to maintain Goa's development momentum.

Political analysts believe that while the target of more than 30 seats is ambitious—given that the BJP won 20 seats in 2022—it reflects the party's desire for a decisive majority.

TRAVEL

Two Passengers Caught Drinking Alcohol on Flight to Goa



Airline staff on a flight to Goa spotted two passengers drinking alcohol and took immediate action.

Staff stated that only alcohol served by the airline may be consumed on board, and unauthorized drinking is against the rules.

The cabin crew isolated the passengers and informed them of potential fines or reporting to the aviation authority.

The incident highlights the strict enforcement of in-flight rules to maintain flight safety and tranquility.

Staff further stated that strict penalties will be imposed for such violations in the future, and the flight arrived in Goa on schedule.

LOCAL

Pipeline leak in Borim causes water supply issues in Ponda and Margao



Residents of Ponda and Margao in Goa are facing water supply issues following a pipeline leak in Borim. The leak has disrupted water supply in several areas, leaving residents without access to this essential resource. Local officials are working to locate the source of the leak and repair the damaged pipeline.

'Dhurandhar' to Open Indian Panorama at 57th IFFI Goa 2026



The Indian Panorama at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) Goa will be opened with the latest film by 'Dhurandhar,' a decision announced by the festival organizers. The Indian Panorama showcases the best of Indian cinema, and 'Dhurandhar's' inclusion reflects their growing influence.

The opening ceremony will be held on the festival's opening day, where 'Dhurandhar' will address the audience and discuss the film's themes. The event is expected to attract filmmakers, critics, and cinema lovers from across the country.

The film, which blends contemporary storytelling with traditional elements, is expected to set high standards for the rest of the festival's program. The IFFI committee highlighted the film's artistic quality and its ability to connect with national and international audiences.

The Indian Panorama has historically served as a launchpad for showcasing Indian films on the global stage, and 'Dhurandhar's' participation is considered a milestone for their career and the international visibility of Indian cinema.

SPORTS

Registration Open for CM Trophy 2.0, Featuring 12 Sports and Cultural Events



CM Trophy 2.0, a multi-sport and cultural competition, has opened the registration window for teams and individuals. The event will feature a total of 12 sports and cultural programmes, providing participants with a broad platform to showcase their abilities. Interested parties can register via the official website, where all information such as dates, venues and eligibility criteria is available.

expanded format will encourage wider participation and foster a spirit of healthy competition. The tournament is expected to attract teams from various regions, thereby increasing the diversity of talent. All registration deadlines and guidelines are clearly stated on the official portal.

Officials said that CM Trophy 2.0 will serve as a major attraction in the local sports calendar, drawing attention from both athletes and spectators. The event will blend athletic excellence with cultural celebration, creating a vibrant atmosphere for all attendees.

ENTERTAINMENT

Goa Restaurant Owner Recounts Visit by Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas



A restaurant owner in Goa recently recounted a memorable encounter during a celebrity visit that featured pop star Nick Jonas and actress Priyanka Chopra.

The owner explained that Nick Jonas tried the restaurant’s signature dish, served with tamarind chutney, and described the combination as quite spicy. He shared the singer’s candid feedback on the local flavour profile.

The anecdote offers a glimpse into the interaction between celebrities and local food culture. While Priyanka Chopra’s presence added to the occasion’s significance, the focus remained on the culinary experience shared by the restaurant staff.

The incident highlights the popularity of Goa’s street food and traditional snacks among international stars, adding a light-hearted note to discussions of celebrity encounters in the tourism hub.